MR. A. GOPALA MENON: I am glad that this question has come up again in the form of a resolution before the House because it has given me an opportunity of stating categorically what has been done by the Government in the way of encouragement of Sanskrit in the country. It is quite easy to see that from the grants given by the Government to various institutions in the past. On an average Rs. 900 per month is given by way of grant-in-aid to Sanskrit schools. I do not think that the charge of not giving encouragement to Sanskrit education can be maintained. Sir, it has been stated that because a large percentage of population is composed of Hindus we owe a duty to Sanskrit culture. Certainly we do and that is why the propagation of Sanskrit culture is being encouraged by the Department of the University. As for the schools, I had the misfortune to visit some of them where the students know neither Malayalam nor Sanskrit. I doubt whether they deserve any help at all. A gentleman to whom I declined to give sanction for a Sanskrit school the other day, wrote inviting curses on me because I denied him a means of livelihood. His mission way certainly not mere propagation of Sanskrit curricula. I do not think Government are bound to provide employment to all people qualified in Sanskrit by allowing them to start schools which do not serve either education or culture. The Department employ these agencies for the purpose of Sanskrit education and it is doing its very best to maintain the level of efficiency in these schools. But only such as are serving a useful purpose can be given help. Just recently, two months ago, a school was granted aid after careful consideration. I may assure Mr. T. P. Velayudhan Pillai that there are other cases under consideration for further grants. In the light of these observations, I request Mr. T. P. Velayudhan Pillai to withdraw his resolution.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: I beg leave of the House to withdraw the resolution.

The resolution, by leave, was withdrawn.

DISBURSEMENT OF GRANTS TO TEACHERS IN AIDED SCHOOLS.

MR. S. NARAYANA PILLAI: I beg to move the following resolution :—

> "This Assembly recommends to Government that grants to teachers in aided schools be paid direct to the teachers themselves by the departmental authorities.

It is a well-known fact that there is no class of people which deserves our sympathy more than the grant-in-aid teachers. It is also a well known fact that the grant-in-aid given by the Department is inclusive of the compensation that the managers get for conducting these schools. Even the small amount of grant is not usually given to the teachers, so that they have to depend upon the tender mercies of the management. I do not include all the managers in this category. There are managers and managers. But in the majority of cases I fear the managers seldom pay the full amount or a good portion of the

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[Mr. S. Narayana Pillai.]

grant to the teachers, so that those who are engaged in the noble profession of educating our future citizens are seldom able to pull on without great hardship. I place this resolution for the acceptance of the House and request the Director to see that the grant is paid direct to the teachers by the department or devise some other scheme by which a substantial portion of that amount at least goes to them.

MR. P. SIVARAMA PILLAI: In supporting the motion, I wish to bring to the notice of the House that whatever amount is being paid to the managers of grant-in-aid schools not more than 50 per cent is given to the teachers, in some of the schools. It is true that Rs. 8 is the average amount that is paid to the Vernacular school teachers. This Assembly had passed a resolution that it should be raised to Rs. 8½. Some how or other that resolution has not been given effect to. I know several cases in which managers take an advance of Rs. 100 or Rs. 150 from the teachers when they are appointed. By the time this amount is cleared by way of grant they will be summarily dismissed. I am sure that many such cases will be pending before the Director of Public Instruction for enquiry and disposal. In several schools out of Rs. 8 given as grant Rs. 2 or Rs. 3 will be taken by the managers either as remuneration for appointment or for payment to other teachers.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI: May I know whether the member is aware of any such case?

MR. P. SIVARAMA PILLAI: Yes, I am.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI: Will the member inform the authorities concerned?

MR. P. SIVARAMA PILLAI: I shall consider.

So I request the Director of Public Instruction to consider the resolution in the light of these facts and devise a scheme by which the Department can directly pay the grant. If he devises any other agency between the Department and the teachers, I am afraid, these grants will not reach the poor teachers.

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: Sir, this is a very difficult problem. It has taxed the intelligence and capacity of my illustrious predecessors. It was in 1934 that this question was first brought forward through a resolution at a conference of the teachers of aided schools in Tiruvella. That question was referred to the Director of Public Instruction and it was discussed in the Advisory Board and the conclusion arrived at was that it was not a practical suggestion. I have myself been trying to find a way of giving the teachers direct payment of the grant that the Government allows. But there are very many difficulties in the way so much so that I am constrained to agree with my predecessors that this particular suggestion of paying direct from the Government treasuries the amount that has been allowed to different teachers under private management cannot be carried out. We have to devise some other method. The difficulties are many. The teachers are appointed by the management. They should be amenable to the control of the

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management and they are also liable to be sent away by the management. The department has absolutely no control over them except when they are kicked out. Then the Director himself can know what a lot of trouble he has to bring the managers to see things in the way the Department looks at the matter. As soon as a question arises whether a person has been reasonably sent out or not, the manager brings forward some charge or other against him which are often unreasonable but which form the basis of long correspondence and delay. If the Director finds it necessary to reinstate him, a series of letters are written which take up more time, sometimes several months, before any solution is reached. Ultimately, the Director has to threaten the withdrawal of grant if the teacher is not reinstated. The manager then comes round and says that the teacher will be sent to some other school, which is tantamount to dismissal, because with his small salary he will not be able to go over to other places. Such difficulties the Department has to meet in order to enforce control over the managers in regard to these teachers. The proposition before us is to allow each teachers salary in the Primary school to be made payable directly. The difficulty is that we have no control over the teachers nor any direct contact with them. It is only recently that Government has insisted that the managers should get the order of appointment countersigned by the inspecting officer so that we may know whether the manager has actually appointed a particular teacher in an aided school. Hitherto we had no record to identify the various teachers.

As regards the payment question, the theory is that grant is paid to the manager. The payment is virtually due only to the management. We are not paying the teachers. We are contributing a certain proportion of the teachers' salary to reimburse the manager for the total loss he has suffered. In such a situation I do not know how you can go to the teacher and say "I shall pay you." The grant becomes payable only after the teachers have been paid by the management and their acquittance obtained. As a matter of fact, as Mr. Sivarama Pillai pointed out, many of us know that no payment is made for months and the teachers have not got anything of what they signed for and yet the theory is that they have received the amount for which they have signed in the acquittance roll. Thus looking from the point of view of the Director of Public Instruction, I can only turn round and say to the teachers "you have been paid" Many cases are pending, where really the teachers have not been paid, whereas they have signed the acquittance Register as though they have received payment. Therefore, the theory of the case precludes the possibility of the Department interfering at this stage of the matter.

Further, the question is if we make direct payment to the teacher, we must be responsible for the discipline and the control of the teachers employed by private agencies. In fact, the private school teachers are responsible to the managers for their proper work and control of the institution in which they work. We have nothing to do with these

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[Mr. A. Gopala Menon.]

teachers. If anything goes wrong with the Aided School we do not ask the teachers, but we question the managers. The managers are primarily responsible for the efficient working of the institution Therefore, our contract with the teachers is absolutely indirect and we cannot go forward and bring ourselves into direct contact with them. Further, for such a change, more powers than are now given to the Director are necessary. That requires amendment of the code and a very long and searching enquiry. It is a very big question. The Department is already aware of the many difficulties in the management of private institutions. As far as the powers of the Director of Public Instruction go everything is being done to mitigate the hardships experienced by the private school teachers. This question has also been engaging the attention of the Department and if not directly and immediately, I promise something will be done sooner or later in the way of making sure the payment of the promised salary to the aided school teachers. I therefore trust that the Honourable member will withdraw his resolution.

MR. S. NARAYANA PILLAI: Sir, I withdraw the resolution.

The question whether the Honourable member has the leave of the House to withdraw the motion was put and carried.

The motion, by leave of the House, was withdrawn.

(Resolutions 11 to 13 were not moved).

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI: Sir, I move that.

"This Assembly recommends to the Government that 30 % of the Land Revenue of the State be budgeted yearly for irrigation work for the the next 20 years."

Sir, there is a clerical error in the resolution as it is printed. It ought to be 30 per cent instead of 20 per cent. as seen here. I do not think that there is any necessity to speak about the importance of irrigation facilities so far as an Agricultural country is concerned. I have stated that Travancore should be considered as occupying the third class in India so far as agricultural facilities are concerned. One who sees the mountainous nature of the country would be convinced that there is an infinite possibility to store water in the higher levels and distribute it to the plains in this country. My provision is for alloting thirty per cent of the Land Revenue. I have tabled another resolution wherein I wish to bring to the notice of this House the necessity of establishing Taluk Boards and District Boards. Power must be given to the Boards so that they may look after their own irrigational facilities. The Chief Engineer had himself inspected a place in connection with an irrigation scheme placed before Government. The total acreage comes to nearly one thousand six hundred acres. The sum total needed for the restoration of the tanks would be much more than what is required for this small scheme. So my submission is that we have got good mountains and plenty of rain fall in this country, and low lying grounds to plant. If water is diverted to such levels, I am sure the fallow lands will also easily be irrigated.

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There were made many representations through this Assembly and the last about the shortage of water for irrigation purposes. Government's Irrigation policy have no continuity in doing any thing. They are always changing. As an agriculturist, it is simply my duty to impress upon Government the necessities of the Agriculturists. It must be remembered that the revenue that Government get in the shape of indirect taxation is the result of agricultural revenue. Our country does not produce many industrial products. Our products are mainly agricultural When there is no safety for the agriculturists, wherein lies safety for the Government machinery? So, it is the duty of the officials and the non-officials to concentrate their attention on this question. I would only expect a proposal from the non-official side to increase the budget. I do not want to deal with this matter because on very many occasions representations have been submitted to Government and the Government are also aware of the needs of the Agriculturists. Whatever amount you bring in the shape of a budget for irrigation work, that is not actually expended for the same purpose. This is considered as a secondary thing so for as the Engineers are concerned. There are certain difficulties experienced by P. W. D. officials in Getting lands from the Land Revenue Department. So that the alloted amount may be spent by the Engineering Department. My humble submission is that I would emphasize the necessity of establishing Village or Taluk Boards taking up irrigation works, because the P. W. D. machinery is ineffective. I do not attribute any bad point to our Chief Engineer. Sir, he had been on the hills to inspect an irrigational scheme. I saw then two or three drops of blood in the hands of Mr. Truscott. Iwas very glad to see those drops of blood in the hands of the Chief Engineer of Travancore, who took pains to see the spot himself and actually sacrifice for the sake of the agriculturists. I say that such Engineers will be rememberd by the Agriculturist population or even by Government. Because they are the champions of the cause for which they work. I do not want to impress further the necessity of such an increased allotment. The official members should consider this problem because their revenue is got out of the agricultural population. So, I place this resolution for your kind consideration.

MR. JEBAMONY NADAR: Sir, I second the resolution and in doing so I have little to say because the difficulties of the agriculturists are well known. I do not make any difference between north and south Travancore. In the one place there is too much water and in the other too little. Whatever that may be, so far as irrigation facilities are concerned. I must say that they are quite meagre every where. The fault lies more with the Engineering Department than with the Government. In the Budget we always find some amount being allotted but some how or other the Engineering Department is not inclined to spend that amount and carry out the work.

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Hence if nothing is done, I should think the blame lies with the Engineering Department. If they would spend the amount that is allotted for a particular irrigation work in a particular year, some relief could be afforded to the agriculturists. That reminds me of the saying that doctors' faults lie below the ground whereas engineers' faults lie above the ground. The numerous silted up tanks exhibit the Engineer's faults. I attribute this sad state of affairs to the want of sympathy on the part of the present Chief Engineer.

Further, Sir, I do not see any purpose served in most of the present day investigations, conducted by the P. W. D. at a very heavy cost. We usually find that some of these investigations result in only, as an end for paying a large number of officers their salaries and also heavy T. A. Thus large sums of money are spent away without any advantage to the tax payer. When the report of the investigation goes to the Chief Engineer some clerk in the Chief Engineer's office finds out some unimportant or mathematical error some where and sends it back to the office of origin and thus the report travels to and fro.

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT : Does the Honourable member stand by that statement?

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI : On a point of order. Sir, can an official member show a wry face when putting a question? (*Laughter*).

MR. JEBAMONY NADAR : Yes. Sir, and I take it, that such action in the Chief Engineer's office is due to the fact that he, the Chief Engineer, is not inclined to execute the work. Sir, the engineering department must be sincere. They must have the willingness to help the agriculturists, whose suffering knows no bounds.

MR. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR : Is not the Honourable member aware that in some cases Government have actually asked the Chief Engineer to surrender amounts allotted for his department.

MR. JEBAMONY NADAR : I am not aware of that, Sir. (*Hear Hear*) But I believe, that even without such a demand from the Government, the present Chief Engineer may allow the budgeted amount to lapse. In the case of certain irrigation works year after year provision is being made in the budget but to no effect as the work is not taken up at all.

Coming to the resolution, Sir, it is a very modest demand that my friend the mover has made, namely, twenty per cent. of the land revenue being set apart for irrigation works. Personally, I would wish he had asked for something more. I have great pleasure in supporting the resolution.

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MR. D. FRANCIS : സർ, ഞാൻ ഇന്ത പ്രമേയത്തെ പലമായ് ആതു കൂലിക്കിറേൻ. കോതൈയാർ പ്രാജക്ട് ഏറ്റ്പ്പട്ട കാലം മുതൽ നാഞ്ചി നാട്ടിൽ, പഴൈയ നിലങ്കളുക്കും, പുതിതായ് വെട്ടിത് തിരുത്തപ്പട്ട നിലങ്കളുക്കും യാതൊരു വിതമാന നിയായമാന സിലവുകൾ സെയ്യാതതി നാൽ തണ്ണീർ കട്ടിവൈക്ക ഇടമില്ലാമൽ കിരുഷികർകളുക്കു ഏരാള മാന നഷ്ടം ഏറ്റ്പ്പട്ടിരുക്കിറതു. ഒവ്വൊരു വരുഷമും ഏതാവതു ഒരു തുകൈ, നിലങ്കളിൻ ആവശ്യങ്കളുക്കാക സിലവു സെയ്തു കുളങ്കൾ വെട്ടി വൈത്തിരുപ്പാരാകിൽ സെന്റ ഐന്തു വരുഷങ്കളാക നേരിട്ട കഷ്ടമും, നഷ്ടമും ഉൺടാകിരുക്കാതു. ആണാൽ പെംപർ Mr. ടി. സി. കേശവപിള്ളൈ പ്രപ്പോസ് പണ്ണി എഴുതിയനുപ്പിയിരുക്കും നീർമാനത്തിൻപടി ഇരുപതു വരുഷങ്കളുക്കു നിലങ്കളിലിരുന്തു കിടൈക്കിറ കാരം മുഴുത്തുകൈയിൽ ഒവ്വൊരു വരുഷമും ഇരുപതിൽ ഒന്റു വീതം അടുത്ത ഇരുപതു വരുഷങ്കളുക്കു കിരുഷിക്കാകച് സിലവു സെയ്യവേണ്ടുമെന്റു കൊൺടുവന്ത നീർമാനത്തിൻപടി, പണത്തൈ സേകരിപ്പടുത്തി ഒവ്വൊരു കുളങ്കളാക വെട്ടിനാൽ മാത്തിരമ് തെൻ തിരുവിതാങ്കൂർ കിരുഷികർകൾ കപിപ പിഴൈക്ക മുടിയും.

ഇതുവരൈ 20 വരുഷങ്കളുക്കു മേലാകിയും പുതുനിലങ്കളുക്കുക് കുളങ്കൾ ഒന്റുമില്ലാമലിരുന്തു നിലങ്കളുക്കു വെള്ളമ് പായ്ച്ചുവതർകാക ഓർ ഓരു കുളമ് മാത്തിരമ് വെട്ടിക്കൊടുത്തപടിയാക ഇന്ത വരുഷമ് നീർമാനിത്തു • സ്ടി മേട്ടിലും പോയിരുക്കിറതു. ആനാൽ തെങ്കൻപുതൂർ പകുതിയിൽ മുതലാവതാക വെട്ടപ് പോകിറ അന്തക് കുളമാനതു അടുത്ത വരുഷത്തിൽ നടൈപെറുമ് എന്റു കിരുഷികർകൾ നമ്പിയിരുക്കിറാർകൾ. അതുപോല നീൺടകരൈപ് പകുതിയിലുമ് വടിവീസ്വരമ് പകുതിയിലുമ്, നാകർകോവിൽ പകുതിയിലുമ് പകുതിക്കു എന്റു വീതമാവതു സില പുതുക്കുളങ്കൾ പുതുവൽ നിലങ്കളിൻ ഇട്ചൈക്കാക വെട്ടിത്തരിക്കവേണ്ടുമ്. ഇവ്വളവുമ് പിരസ്താപിത്തുക് കൊൺടു ഇന്തത് തീർമാനത്തൈപ് പലമായ് ആതരിക്കിറേൻ,

MR. THARIATHU KUNJITHOMMEN : സർ, ഞാൻ ഈ പ്രമേയത്തെ അനുകൂലിക്കുന്നു. നമ്മുടെ രാജ്യത്തെ പ്രധാന ആഹാരസാധനമായ നെല്ല് ഇവിടെ വേണ്ടുവോളം വിളയുന്നില്ലെന്നും വലിയ ഒരു തുക പ്രതിവൽസരം ഈ വിഷയത്തിൽ നമ്മുടെ നാട്ടിൽനിന്നും പുറത്തേക്കു പോയിക്കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നു എന്നും ഉള്ളതു പ്രത്യേകം ഗൗനിക്കേണ്ട ഒരു വിഷയമാണു്. പ്രത്യേകിച്ചും ഒരു മഹായുദ്ധമൊ മറെറാ പണ്ടത്തെപ്പോലെ വരികയാണെങ്കിൽ ഭക്ഷണസാധനങ്ങളുടെ ദൌർല്ലഭ്യംകൊണ്ടു് നാം കഷ്ടപ്പെടേണ്ടിവരും. എപ്പോഴാണു് ഈ യുദ്ധം പൊട്ടിപ്പുറപ്പെട്ടതെന്നു് അന്വേഷിച്ചു നോക്കിക്കൊണ്ടിരിക്കയാണു്. മുമ്പു് യുദ്ധകാലത്തു് ഏകദേശം ഒരുപറയോളം ഒരു പറ നെല്ലിനു വിലയുണ്ടായിരുന്നു. എന്നാൽഅന്നു് നാം കയറുമതിചെയ്തയക്കുന്ന കാഷ്ടികോൽപ്പന്നങ്ങൾക്കും വിലയുണ്ടായിരുന്നു. അവയിൽ നിന്നും കിട്ടുന്ന ആദായംകൊണ്ടുവേണം

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[Mr. Tariatu Kunjitommen.]

നമ്മുടെ ഭക്ഷണസാധനങ്ങൾ വാങ്ങിക്കുവാൻ. അവയ്ക്കും വില ഇപ്പോൾ ഇടിഞ്ഞിരിക്കുന്നു. അതുകൊണ്ട് ഇനിമേലാൽ പട്ടിണി കിടക്കുകയല്ലാതെ വമ്പിച്ചതുകകൊടുത്തു് ഭക്ഷണസാധനം വാങ്ങിക്കുവാൻ നമുക്കു സാധിക്കാതെ വരും. ഇതിലേക്ക് തക്കതായ പ്രതിവിധികൾ നാം കണ്ടുവയ്ക്കണം.

ഓരോ രാജ്യക്കാരും പഞ്ചവത്സരപദ്ധതി എന്നൊന്ന് നിർണ്ണയിച്ച് അവരുടെ രാജ്യത്തില്ലാത്തതായ സാധനങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടാക്കുന്നതിനായി പല വിധത്തിൽ പരിശ്രമിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നു എന്ന് പത്രങ്ങൾ വഴിയായി നാം അറിയുന്നു. മറ്റു സാധനങ്ങളുടെ കാര്യം ഏതുവിധത്തിലായാലും ആഹാരസാധനങ്ങളുടെ ദൌർല്ലഭ്യത്തെയാണ് നാം പ്രത്യേകം പരിഗണിക്കേണ്ടതു്. ആഹാരംകഴിച്ചു ജീവിച്ചിരുന്നിട്ടു വേണമല്ലോ മറ്റു കാര്യങ്ങളിൽ പ്രവർത്തിക്കാൻ. അതുകൊണ്ട് ഇവിടത്തെ ഭക്ഷണസാധനങ്ങൾ വർദ്ധിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിന് പര്യാപ്തമായ ഈ പ്രമേയത്തെ അനുകൂലിക്കേണ്ടതു് രാജ്യസ്നേഹികളായ ഏവരുടേയും കടമയാകുന്നു.

ഭൂനികുതിയുടെ ൨൦ ശതമാനം ൩൦ കൊല്ലത്തേക്ക് കൃഷിസേചനത്തിനായി വിനിയോഗിക്കണമെന്നുള്ളതാണ് പ്രമേയം. അതു വിനിയോഗിക്കുന്ന കാര്യത്തിൽ ബുദ്ധിപൂർവ്വമായ ഏർപ്പാടുകൾ ഗവണ്മെൻറു ചെയ്താൽ രാജ്യത്തിൻെറ ഭാവി വളരെ ശ്രേയസ്കരമായിരിക്കും. മദ്ധ്യോത്തരതിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ അനവധി ചാലുകൾ ഒഴുകിപോകുന്നുണ്ടെങ്കിലും ജലദൌർല്ലഭ്യംകൊണ്ടു് കൃഷിക്കു നിവൃത്തിയില്ലാതിരിക്കുന്നു. അതുപോലെതന്നെ അനേകം വെള്ളച്ചാട്ടങ്ങളുമുണ്ട്. അവയിൽനിന്നും തോടുവെട്ടിവിട്ടാൽ ഇരുകരകളിലുമുള്ള നിലങ്ങളെ സേചനംചെയ്യുന്നതിന് സൗകര്യമുണ്ടാകും. മദ്ധ്യോത്തരതിരുവിതാംകൂറിലുള്ള ആറുകളെ തോടുകൾ മുഖാന്തിരം യോജിപ്പിച്ചാൽ വളരെ ഭൂമികൾ നെൽകൃഷിക്കുപയോഗപ്പെടുത്താം, നമ്മുടെ ആഹാരസാധനത്തിൻെറ ദൌർല്ലഭ്യം തീരെ ഇല്ലാതാക്കുകയും ചെയ്യാം.

ജലസേചനത്തിനായി വിനിയോഗിക്കുന്ന സംഖ്യ എല്ലാ താലൂക്കിനും ഉപയോഗപ്രദമാകണം. ആഹാരം കഴിച്ചവന് ഉലഹാരം കൊടുക്കുക എന്നു പറയുന്നതുപോലെ ഇറിഗേഷനായി ധാരാളമായി ചെലവു വ്യയംചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ള താലൂക്കുകൾക്കുമാത്രം ഭൂനികുതിയുടെ ൨൦ ശതമാനം ൩൦ കൊല്ലത്തേക്ക് നീക്കിവക്കുന്നതു വളരെ സങ്കടമാണ്. ആവിശ്യമുള്ളപ്പോൾ ആകാശത്തേക്കുപോകുന്ന ജലം വർഷിക്കുമ്പോൾ

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ചില പ്രത്യേകപ്രദേശങ്ങളിൽ മാത്രം പണിചെയ്താൽ മറ്റു സ്ഥലങ്ങൾ വരണ്ടുപോകയേയുള്ളൂ. അതുപോലെ നികുതിരൂപേണ ഗവണ്മെൻറ് സംഭരിക്കുന്ന പണം രാജ്യത്തിൻറെ എല്ലാഭാഗത്തെ ആവശ്യത്തിനുംവേണ്ടി വിനിയോഗിക്കുന്നില്ലെങ്കിൽ ചില പ്രദേശങ്ങളിലുള്ളവർ വളരെ കഷ്ടപ്പെടേണ്ടിവരും.

ഞാൻ പ്രധാനമായി രണ്ടു സംഗതികളാണ് ഗവണ്മെൻറിൻറെ ശ്രദ്ധയിൽ കൊണ്ടുവരാനുള്ളത്. ഒന്ന് ഗവണ്മെൻറിൻറെശ്രദ്ധ രാജ്യത്തിൻറെ എല്ലാഭാഗങ്ങളിലും പതിയണം. മറെറാന്ന് ഗവണ്മെൻറിൻറെ ശ്രദ്ധ എല്ലാജനവിഭാഗങ്ങളിലും സമഭാവനയോടെ പതിയണം. ഏതെങ്കിലും പ്രദേശത്തിൻറെയൊ അല്ലെങ്കിൽ ഏതെങ്കിലും ജനവിഭാഗത്തിൻറെയോ നേരെക്ക് ഗവണ്മെൻറിൻറെ ശ്രദ്ധ പതിയുന്നില്ലെന്നു കാണുമ്പോൾ അതിനെപ്പററി പറയുന്നത് ദേശീയബോധമോ, പ്രാദേശികബോധമോ, വർഗ്ഗീയബോധമോ ആണെന്നും ദോഷാരോപണം ചെയ്യുന്നുണ്ട്. രാജ്യത്തിൻറെ ഏതെങ്കിലും ഭാഗങ്ങളിലൊ, ജനങ്ങളിൽ ഏതെങ്കിലും ഒരു വിഭാഗത്തിലൊ ഗവണ്മെൻറിൻറെ ശ്രദ്ധപതിയുന്നില്ലെങ്കിൽ അതു ഗവണ്മെൻറിൻറെ ദൃഷ്ടിയിൽ കൊണ്ടുവരേണ്ടതു് ഏതൊരു ജനപ്രതിനിധിയുടേയും കടമയാകുന്നു. ഈ സംഗതിയിൽ രാജ്യത്തിൻറെ പൊതുക്ഷേമത്തെമുൻനിറുത്തി പ്രവൃത്തിക്കേണ്ടതാണ്. അതിനാൽ മി: ടി. സി. കേശവപിള്ളയുടെ പ്രമേയത്തെ ഞാൻ ബലമായി പിൻതാങ്ങുന്നു.

MR. KUMARAN VAIYDIAN: സർ, ഞാൻ ഈ പ്രമേയത്തെ അനുകൂലിക്കുന്നു. വടക്കൻ തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ വെള്ളത്തിൻറെ ദൗർല്ലഭ്യം കൊണ്ടു യാതൊരു കൃഷിക്കും നിവൃത്തിയില്ലാതിരിക്കുന്നു. അതുകൊണ്ടു കൃഷിക്കു വേണ്ട അനുകൂല്യങ്ങൾ ഗവണ്മെൻറ് ഉത്തരതിരുവിതാംകൂറിലേക്കു ചെയ്തുകൊടുക്കണം. വർഷത്തിൻറെ കുറവുകൊണ്ടു കരനിലങ്ങൾ മിക്കതും ഉപയോഗശൂന്യമായി നികന്നിരിക്കയാണ്. അതുപോലെതന്നെ പുഞ്ചകൃഷിയും തീർന്നിരിക്കയാണു. ഭൂനികുതിയിൽ 50 ശതമാനം ഇറിഗേഷനായി നീക്കിവച്ചു, അതു എല്ലാ താലൂക്കുകളിലേക്കും ഉപയോഗപ്പെടുത്തണമെന്നുള്ളതാണ് എൻറെ വിനീതമായ അഭിപ്രായം. നമ്മുടെ രാജ്യം ഒരു കർഷകരാജ്യമാണ്. വടക്കൻ താലൂക്കുകളിൽ നാളികേരമാണ് പ്രധാനകൃഷി. അതിനു മഴയുടെ കുറവുകൊണ്ടു വളരെ നാശമുണ്ടു. അതിനു ജലസേചനം ചെയ്യാൻ സാധിക്കയില്ല, അതുകൊണ്ടു ഞാൻ അതിനെപ്പററി പറയുന്നില്ല മി: കുഞ്ഞിത്തൊ

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[Mr. Kumaran Vaidiyan]

മ്മൻ അഭിപ്രായപ്പെട്ടതുപോലെ ഞരുവികളുള്ള സ്ഥലത്തുനിന്നും തോട് വെട്ടി വെള്ളംകൊണ്ടുപോയാൽ അനേകം ഏക്കർ തരിശുഭൂമികൾഒന്നൽ കൃഷിക്കുപയോഗപ്പെടുത്താൻ സാധിക്കും. ഓരോ താലൂക്കിലുമുള്ള കൃഷി സംബന്ധമായ സ്ഥിതിഗതികളെ നേരിട്ട് അറിയുന്നതിന് ഒരു കമ്മറിയെ നിയമിച്ച് വേണ്ട പരിഹാരമാർഗ്ഗം ഉണ്ടാക്കിത്തരണമെന്നുള്ള അപേക്ഷയോടുകൂടി ഞാൻ ഈ പ്രമേയത്തെ പിൻതാങ്ങുന്നു.

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT: Sir, I find the mover has amended his resolution and increased his demand from twenty per cent. to thirty per cent. Now, Sir, our land revenue is approximately Rs. 41 lakhs so that the honourable member wants Rs. 12·3 lakhs to be spent annually on irrigation works. For the current year, we have an allotment of Rs. 4·7 lakhs for irrigation made up of 3·50 lakhs for protective irrigation and 1·2 lakhs for reproductive irrigation works. In the past years, we have not been able to spend all the money allotted in the budget. There are various reasons for this.

Mr. Jebamony Nadar stated that the Department was wasting a lot of money on investigations. That is Mr. Jebamony Nadar's opinion who seems to wish the department to indulge in a sort of hit and miss policy of digging a pit and hoping for the best and in the best does not turn out to fill in the pit and dig somewhere else, so much for Mr. Jebamony Nadar's engineering. Investigations are necessary and for every important work we first conduct a preliminary investigation to get an idea of the probable cost of the scheme and its utility and if this is found unworkable or too expensive, the scheme is dropped; but if there appears possibilities a detailed investigation is made and on that detailed investigation the estimates are prepared. These estimates are not, as stated by Mr. Jebamony Nadar, scrutinised by any clerk, but by the Head Draftsman of the Chief Engineer's Office and the Chief Engineer. No estimate leaves the Chief Engineer's Office that has not been so scrutinised.

MR. JEBAMONY NADAR: The honourable member is not audible to me, Sir.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Please speak up, Mr. Truscott.

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT: Evidently the honourable member has not been listening.

In the past Sir, there has been some delay in the execution of irrigation works due to the Chief Engineer not having sufficient powers. After some correspondence with Government these powers have now been enhanced and I feel sure that this will greatly help in the expeditious execution of works.

There is also considerable delay in the acquisition of lands for irrigation works. This is unavoidable as the Revenue department

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have considerable trouble in ascertaining the ownership of the land required. But this has now been partly overcome by a special staff from the Revenue department being detailed to work under the P. W. D. In regard to the restoration of tanks in South Travancore, Sir, a special fund has been sanctioned for the purchase back of tanks which have been registered in the past in the names of private holders. All this will make it clear to the House that Government are doing their best for irrigation works. Therefore the resolution is not necessary. The Government of Travancore have always looked very very kindly on everything that helps the ryots; only the ryots in the country do not always do their part properly. For instance, in minor irrigation works, the Department improves these works and hands them over in proper repair to the ryots concerned and then it is the ryots' duty to maintain the works in proper condition. Unfortunately they do not always realise their responsibilities in the matter and many works are allowed to fall into dis-repair causing a loss both to the ryots and the Government who have together contributed to their cost.

I hope with this explanation the mover of the resolution will be satisfied and will withdraw the resolution.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: May I ask the Chief Engineer whether the Government have at any time asked him to surrender any amount back to the Government?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT: I do not remember having been asked by the Government to surrender any amount from the allotment for any irrigation work. I may perhaps add that so far as the minor irrigation fund is concerned, it does not permit of surrender in any event, and funds not expended during one year are automatically carried over to the next year.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI: Sir, I have moved this resolution not with the object of winning a victory over the Government. The real intention of the non-official side has been clearly laid before the official side. Considering the fact that this matter relates to a department under an honest and sincere officer like Mr. Truscott, certainly, a member like myself has to withdraw the resolution. Personally speaking, I have that responsibility in the matter. But speaking on behalf of my constituency, as an elected representative of the people of my constituency, I have to press the resolution.....

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: Does the member withdraw his resolution or does he press it?

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI: I have the right to make a reply and I am doing it.

I am really sorry for the unsympathetic attitude of my brother members of North Travancore. Sir, I thought that irrigation was a question affecting the whole of Travancore. I may inform my friend Mr. Kunjithommen that we in South Travancore are always ready to go and settle down in North Travancore leaving it to the people of

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[Mr. T. C. Kesava Pillai.]

North Travancore to come and take our place in South Travancore and settle down there; we would not even grudge paying them, their bus fare for coming to the South.

Sir, Government have declared it as their policy to give special treatment to unrepresented backward communities. In the same way, Sir, the people of South Travancore deserve special encouragement at the hands of Government. Considering the peculiar condition so far as irrigational grants are concerned such as the scanty rainfall they have been given such special treatment in the past also. After all, Sir, what is it that I am asking for by this resolution? I want merely an extra of thirty per cent. of the land revenue to be set apart for the irrigation works. I may make it clear that this 30 per cent. I want over and above the present provision made in the budget.

Sir, we have only fifteen minutes more. I have another resolution also which I do not think I will have time to move. I may therefore be permitted to add that the constitution of taluk and village boards has become an urgent necessity is not for any other purpose, at least to serve as a check against the vagaries of some of the officers of the P. W. D. ffi Recently in one of the yelahs in my constituency in spite of the obstruction by the people there, the officer at the spot cut the bund open; now nearly 1500 acres of land are silted up with sand. The innocent ryots of the place did not really want the matter to be placed before the Government. But Sir, I thought I would be failing in my duty if I do not place before the House this very serious misconduct on the part of an officer of the Government. Such things can be remedied only by the establishment of taluk boards and village boards.

I know, Sir, that I have got the right to withdraw.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Are you withdrawing it or pressing it?

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI: I do not withdraw it.

MR M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: On a point of order, Sir. Has a member of this House a dual capacity here, one as representative of the people and the other his personal capacity?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: He is pressing his motion.

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT: The honourable member now wants 30 per cent of the land revenue over and above the present allotment. The present allotment is a little over 10 per cent; so what the honourable member wants is an allotment of 40 per cent. I am afraid I cannot accept that proposal. So, I must oppose the resolution.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: May I know from the honourable member what allotment was spent this year?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT: I cannot give the exact figure but the total allotment is Rs. 4·7 lakhs.

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MR. JOSEPH VITHAYATHIL : On a point of order. The resolution, as it is tabled, does not provide for 30 per cent being set apart over and above the budgeted amount. But the honourable mover of the resolution is putting another interpretation. The House ought to know what interpretation they ought to give to the resolution before voting on it.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : It is open to the honourable members to interpret it in any manner they choose. The resolution, as it is, will be put to vote.

MR. KAINIKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI : Is it 30 per cent in addition, as amended by the mover himself? That is a point which we have to know before we definitely vote.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI : Before voting, should we not know the real scope of the resolution?

MR. KAINIKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI : He cannot amend it at the stage when it is to be put to the vote of the House.

The following resolution of Mr. T. C. Kesava Pillai was then put to the vote of the House and declared lost.

"This Assembly recommends to Government that 30 per cent. of the land revenue of the State be budgeted yearly for irrigation works for the next 20 years."

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI : I demand a poll.

A poll was accordingly taken with the following results :

AYES.- 21.

1.	Mr. Kottalil P. Abraham	12.	Mr. Thariathu Kunjithommen
2.	,, P. C. Adichan	13.	,, P Knjuukrishnan
3.	Sahib Bahadur V. Chandamiah	14.	,, Varkala K. Madhavan
4.	Mr. D. Francis	15.	,, Sahib Bahadur M. K. Mackar Pillai
5.	,, S. Govinda Pil'ai	16.	,, P. V. Mathai Chemparathy
6.	,, C. Jebamony Nadar	17.	,, N. Narayana Kurup
7.	,, Kannanthodath Janardanan Nair	18.	,, K. Narayanaperumal Nadar
8.	,, M. G. Kesava Pillai	19.	,, K. R. Narayanan
9.	,, T. C. Kesava Pillai	20.	,, M. Ramiah Pillai
10.	,, K. P. Kochukora Tharakan	21.	,, M. Sivathanu Pillai
11.	,, Thamarappallil Kochuthommen		

NOES.—11.

1.	Mr. M. K. Nilacanta Aiyar	7.	Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai
2.	,, M. Govinda Pillai	8.	,, M. Ramachandra Rao
3.	,, P. G. Narayanan Unnithan	9.	,, A. Gopala Menon
4.	,, P. Parameswaran Pillai	10.	,, M. P. Joseph
5.	,, C. Kumara Das	11.	,, Kcdiveettil C. Raman Kunj
6.	,, G. B. E. Truscott		

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NEUTRALS.—26.

1.	Srimati K. Devaki Antharjanam	14.	Mr. K. Kunju Panickar
2.	Mr. K. Dominic Joseph	15.	Sahib Bahadur P. S. Muhamed
3.	,, E. E. Pandarathil	16.	Mr. S Narayana Pillai
4.	,, K. G. Govindan	17.	,, P. Narayana Pillai
5.	,, M. L. Janardana Pillai	18.	,, R. Narayanan Nambootiri
6.	,, N. John Joseph	19.	Srimati T. Narayani Amma
7.	,, N. V. Joseph	20.	Mr. Kainikkara M. Padmanabha Pillai
8.	,, Joseph Vithayathil	21.	,, P. Sivarama Pillai
9.	,, Menatheri N. Kesava Panickar	22.	,, R. Sivaraman Nair
10.	,, T. T. Kesavan Sastri	23.	,, J. W. Tolson
11.	,, Kaviyoor K. K. Kochukunju	24.	,, Puliyoor T. P. Velayudhan Pillai
12.	,, N. R. Krishnan	25.	,, N. Velu Achari
13.	,, A. K. Kumaran Vaidyan	26.	,, G. Velu Pillai

The resolution was declared carried, 21 voting *for* 11 voting *against* and 26 remaining *neutral*.

MR. S. NARAYANA PILLAI: Sir, I beg to move the following resolution:

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN: എന്റെ പേരിൽ ഒരു പ്രമേയം ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നു. ആദ്യംവിളിച്ചപ്പോൾ ഞാൻ വെളിക്കുപോയിരിക്കയായിരുന്നു. അതുകൊണ്ട് ആ പ്രമേയം അവതരിക്കാൻ എന്നെ അനുവദിക്കണം.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: You were not in your seat and Mr. Narayana Pillai has been called upon to move the resolution standing in his name.

MR. S. NARAYANA PILLAI: Sir, I move the following resolution:

"This Assembly recommends to the Government that a scheme for the prohibition of the vending and consumption of intoxicating drinks within a limited area with a view to bring under control the drink evil, be devised and put through immediately."

Sir, the honourable members of this House have expressed the opinion already on a previous resolution that the drink evil should be brought under control and that the hours of drinking should be curtailed. We are supported in this by the policy of the Congress Government in Bombay, Madras and other Provinces in introducing prohibition in those places. I trust that my resolution will commend itself to the members of this House.

(At this stage the President took the Chair.)

I am of opinion that the prohibition of the vending and consumption of intoxicating drinks should be tried within some specified area as an experiment. Such an experimental measure has been tried in

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the adjoining British Indian Province of Madras and also in some other Provinces and some villages in Mysore and from the reports of the Prohibition officers it appears that the experiment is proving a success. If such an experiment is made within some specified area here in Travancore, I am sure that the measure would prove a success.

One of the arguments advanced against the introduction of prohibition is that it will entail loss of revenue. But the present resolution is very limited in scope and hence there need be no fear that it will seriously affect the revenues of the state. When total prohibition is introduced, then it will be time to think of measures to make up for the loss. I would suggest that when such time comes the measures taken by the Madras Government for making up the loss in this direction may be introduced here also or other suitable measures. I commend this resolution for the acceptance of the House.

MR. P. NARAYANA PILLAI: Sir, I second the resolution. It is the declared policy of Government to gradually stop the drink evil. But I am sorry to say that this policy is not actively being pursued now. There is reason to suspect that the Government will not do anything in this matter, especially in view of the speech made by the Excise Commissioner. He was doing propaganda to popularise the drinking of toddy in this country. He was rather expatiating upon the efficacy of drink both as a medicine and as a food. Anyhow, it is high time that the drinking habit should be controlled and it is desirable that prohibition should be tried at least within a limited area.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: On a point of order. The principle underlying this resolution is exactly identical with that of Mr. Narayanaperumal Nadar that was voted upon in this House today.

PRESIDENT: Mr. Nadar's resolution was for the purpose of shortening the hours for drinking and the present resolution is for the purpose of trying prohibition within a limited area.

MR. P. SIVARAMA PILLAI: In supporting the resolution before the House, I may be permitted to offer a few remarks. I am not at all convinced by all that was said by the Excise Commissioner though he brought forward the authority of some medical council for his proposition that the longivity depends more upon drinking. I may be permitted to say that in Travancore toddy-drinking would not in the least contribute to the health of the people. Possibly some other drinks may contain some sort of vitamin but there may be more poison than vitamins in them.

PRESIDENT: What is the liquor which has very high authority behind it?

MR. PUTHUPALLY S. KRISHNA PILLAI: Sweet toddy.

MR. P. SIVARAMA PILLAI: Take tea for instance. To a few people like me tea will be more intoxicating and stimulating. We know tea is poisonous to a considerable extent and nobody is going to recommend tea. Sir, I congratulate the Government for having selected an Excise Commissioner who is such an excellent propagandist for toddy-drinking

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[Mr. P. Sivarama Pillai.]

in Travancore. But may I request the Excise Commissioner to remember the days when he was a Judge at Kottayam. Let him analyse the criminal cases especially the sessions cases which were tried before him. This morning when I went through the list of questions and answers I found that there were more sessions cases in the Kottayam District Court than elsewhere and I am very sure that the Excise Commissioner will be one with me when I say that more toddy is drunk in Kottayam District than elsewhere. Unfortunately my constituency namely Minachil and Thodupuzha, is competing with other taluks in this respect. From an analysis of the judgments in the sessions cases in Kottayam District and the causes that have led to the murders there, I am rather forced to place certain obvious facts before this House. Out of 77 cases that were tried last year 47 ended in conviction. 40 were murders and most of these murders were the result of drinking much more than what is required. The Excise Commissioner would say that drinking temperately or moderately would be conducive to health. But I do not think that drunkards are of the opinion that 2 drams would be conducive to health and that half a dram more would be injurious. I think that such subtle differences are not made when people are drinking. If people are sensible, I do not think that they will go in for drinking. So, all these things would clearly show that drinking will affect the society both morally and physically. To the honourable member who questions that, I might only say—let him go to Salem where the experiment is carried on and let him study the situation there.

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT: Is the honourable member speaking from his own personal experience?

MR. P. SIVARAMA PILLAI: Not from my personal experience but from the facts brought to my knowledge by my intimate personal friends who are in Salem now.

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT: Does the honourable member suggest that I too should not get information in the same way?

MR. P SIVARAMA PILLAI: He may. Economically also I may say that drinking is an evil. When I was carrying on economic surveys in the labour districts of Sholapur and Bombay, as a student in certain universities in Northern India, I found that more than 25 per cent. of the income that the labourers earned by their work was spent on liquor. I think almost the same figure if not more will be arrived at in Travancore also.

PRESIDENT: I do not want to guillotine the honourable member. It is now 5 o'clock. The session is going to be prorogued. The honourable member, if he wishes may finish his remarks soon.

MR. P. SIVARAMA PILLAI: I want to say much more. But since the time is up, I shall conclude by saying that I support the resolution.

MR. M. P. JOSEPH: Sir, here again we are at prohibition. The scope of the resolution is however very limited. The honourable member wants to try the experiment of prohibition in certain local

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areas. The very same experiment was recommended by the Excise Committee and was tried for a period of 8 years both at Changanacherry and at Attingal.

This is what Mr. C. O. Madhavan says, as regards to experiment—

"Time has arrived to take stock of the working of the local option within the municipal limits of Changanachery and to come to a conclusion as to whether the experiment should be continued or terminated.....According to my considered judgment the experiment was a thorough failure."

In the Administration Report for 1112, the Excise Commissioner says "on the demand of the people of the municipal town of Changanachery, the prohibition of the vend of arrack in the locality was introduced with effect from the biennium of 1104 and 1105 and the same was continuing till the close of 1111. One sad experience gained at the working of prohibition in the said area is the lamentable apathy of the people of the place in the detection of abkari offences. No tangible co-operation was received from the public by the officers of the department. The trial at Changanachery was therefore discontinued as a failure. With a view however to make one more attempt in this direction with a change of place local option was introduced within the municipal limits of Attingal." After a year's experience the Excise Commissioner wrote to Government that the people of Attingal are not for temperance or prohibition and that they sorely need arrack.

At Changanachery it was tried for 7 years. The experiment proved to be a total failure. The Excise Commissioner therefore recommended to Government for the abolition of the preventive staff. Government accepted the recommendation. Again, another attempt of local option was made at Attingal to see whether it would be a success there. For about one year the experiment was pushed on vigorously. That also proved a failure. The Excise Commissioner therefore informed the Government the result of the experiment at Attingal and also recommended the discharge of the special preventive staff. Government accepted the recommendation. The text of the Government letter in this connection runs thus:

"With reference to the correspondence ending with your letter No. 17466/A. 6096 dated 23rd June 1937 re: the introduction of local option at Attingal, I have the honor to inform you that local option has been a ghastly failure in Madras and in a country full of cocoanut palm trees and possibilities of illicit distillation, as this, it is bound to be futile with the sole result of loss of revenue to Government."

The experiment conducted one after the other proved futile. Such being the case, I ask the honourable members whether it is worth while to try again the experiment which was honestly tried for a period of over 9 years. Even after the Excise Commissioner's recommendation as to the futility of the trial of local option in one place, the

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[Mr. M. P. Joseph.]

Government wanted him to try it in another place, where also it proved a total failure. It is well-known that Travancore is one village from one end of the country to the other and with its peoples living in separate plots from end to end, it is not possible to define a local area.

This is a country where cocoanut palms grow in abundance. Facilities to produce toddy are numerous.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: In view of the fact that there are populous villages in South Travancore, will it not be desirable to try the experiment in South Travancore?

MR. M. P. JOSEPH: There also the same trouble is sure to arise. In America, where the people are supposed to be thorough going the attempt proved a failure after 19 years of vigorous compaign in favour of prohibition. In our country too the trial has ended in failure. I do not think that another attempt at this experiment will yield beneficial results. Under these circumstances, I would request the House to consider whether another attempt should be made.

The motion was put and carried.

PRESIDENT: Under Section 10 (1) of the Reforms Regulation II of 1108, I prorogue this Session.

The House prorogued at 5-5 P. M.

A. GUNAMONY,
Secretary to the Sri Mulam Assembly.

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